

CONFIDENTIAL

REPORT NO.

50X1

50X1

COUNTRY Hungary

DATE DISTR. 29 Jan 54

SUBJECT The Hungarian Academy of Physical Culture

NO. OF PAGES 14

DATE OF INFORMATION

REFERENCES:

PLACE ACQUIRED

50X1

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

SOURCE

50X1

1. The Hungarian Academy of Physical Culture (Magyar Testnevelési Főiskola -- TF) was located in Budapest, XIIth District, Alkotás Street 44. This Academy trained instructors of gymnastics and sports (torna és sport tanárok) to be employed by schools, universities, and athletic organizations. The Academy granted a degree of Master of Physical Culture to students completing a regular four-year curriculum and to other students completing correspondence courses.
2. Like everything else in Hungary, the Academy was under the control of the Communist Party. This control did not appear to be official and the constitution of the Academy did not state that the CP had any right to intervene in its affairs. However, nobody dared to contradict the Communist orders, called "suggestions", directed to the Academy, which influenced every phase of life there. I do not know exactly which high Party organ was responsible for the Academy, but I assume that it was the National Party Committee (Országos Partbizottság). This Committee directed the Budapest Party Committee, which forwarded Party directives to the committees of all Budapest districts. The Academy received these directives through the XIIth District Party Committee via the Party Secretary of the Academy. In addition to political control, the Academy had to follow the Communist line in educational matters. The National Party Committee controlled the National Committee of Physical Culture and Sports (Országos Testnevelési és Sport Bizottság -- OTSB), the top sport authority in the country, and the president of the OTSB forwarded Party directives to the Director of the Academy through the Personnel Department of the OTSB. I do not know exactly how, but either through the OTSB or independently, the Ministry of Education also had a hand in controlling the educational policy of the Academy. Finally, financial control came from the National Party Committee through the State Control Center (Állami Ellenőrző Központ -- AEK). As far as I could see, the AEK had complete control over all financial matters at the Academy. Officials of the AEK used to make surprise checks in the Supply Office (Gazdasági Hivatal) without informing even the Director in advance.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-2-

3. The Directorate of the Academy consisted of a Director, a Deputy Director, and a Party Secretary. The Council of the Academy (Foeiskola Tanacs), its membership consisting of Heads of the Departments, played an important role in the life of the Academy prior to 1948, but under the influence of this Directorate it had become an insignificant organ merely to pass along educational instructions to the staff. Members of the "triumvirate" were independent of each other in their fields and the Director was over the others in name only, in accordance with the Communist tactic of putting three heads on the same body to spy on each other. Officially, the Director kept under his personal control:

The Department of Studies (Tanulmanyi Osztaly);

The 11 Departments of Education (Tanszekek);

The Department of Correspondence Education or Extension Courses (Levelezoe Oktatasi Osztaly);

The Supply Office (Gasdasagi Hivatal);

The Library (Koenyvtar);

and probably, the Trainers' School (Edzoekepzo Foeiskola).

The Deputy Director was in charge of:

The Sport Leaders' School (Sportvezetoekepzo Iskola);

The One-year Preparatory Course (Szakerettsegi Tanfolyam).

The Party Secretary of the Academy directed Communist indoctrination and supervised the carrying-out of Communist suggestions.

An organizational chart of the Academy, showing also its relationship with the CP, is attached to this report as Annex A.

Entrance Requirements

4. The requirements for admission to the Academy as a regular four-year student included: matriculation (erettségi bizonyítvány) from any gymnasium (secondary school, consisting of about eight years of education) or its equivalent; physical fitness for a career in physical culture; and passing entrance examinations. Youths from all classes of society could be admitted, but applicants of proletarian origin were given preference. Prior to the school year 1952-1953 many students who were backed by various Communist authorities entered the Academy although they were neither physically nor mentally fit for education there. It was planned to make the selection of students far more strict.
5. Applications for admission were sent to the Department of Studies at the Academy. The "cadre records" (kaderlap) of all applicants were attached to the applications by the schools where the students had matriculated. Call-up for entrance examinations depended mostly on the cadre records, which contained the detailed personal and political background of students. After passing a thorough physical examination the applicants were subjected to practical and theoretical examinations.
6. A degree of skill in gymnastics, track, and athletic games was required to pass the practical entrance examination. In addition to this, applicants were supposed to demonstrate capability for further development in physical culture.
7. The examinations in theory were divided into two parts. The first part was a written problem on secondary school material and the second part consisted of an oral "discussion" conducted between applicants and a

CONFIDENTIAL

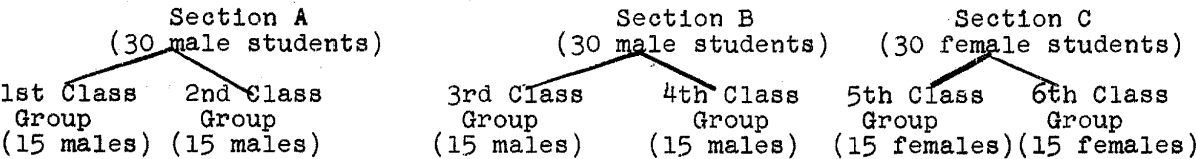
"sub-committee" consisting of a CP member chosen from the lecturers at the Academy, another lecturer who was considered a sympathizer, and a representative of the Federation of Working Youth (DISZ) organization at the Academy. The oral examination lasted through a full afternoon, during which the sub-committee tried to find out the political, ideological, and religious beliefs of the applicants, and to establish if they were qualified to become teachers.

8. Results of the medical, practical, and theoretical examinations and proposals of the examiners on admittance or rejection of the applicants were sent to the High Admission Committee (Felveteli Csucsbizottsag) of the Academy. This Committee had the right to make the final decision on admittance and selected students for the first year class from the applicants. In selecting students, however, the Committee had to adhere to Communist instructions which limited admittance to certain quotas of worker, peasant, and intellectual origin. I do not know the proportions in which students of various social origin were accepted, but I know that students of intellectual social origin were not favored, and that the Committee often refused the admission of students with outstanding ability in order to fill the Communist quota.
9. In spite of the entrance procedure, there were many worthless students in the Academy because graduates of the Preparatory School see below were automatically enrolled as first year students without having to take any entrance examinations. Their grade of intelligence was very low and they could barely read or write.

The Student Body

10. The number of regular students (rendes hallgatók) enrolled in the four-year curriculum of the Academy in 1947 was about 180-200, and in 1952-1953 about 360. Each class was divided into A, B, and C sections of 30 students each. The A and B sections consisted of male and the C section of female students. Each section was further divided into so-called class groups (evfolyam csoportok) of 15 students each, shown by the diagram below:

CLASS (I, II, III or IV)



The A, B, and C sections received practical training separately but attended lectures on theory together. Seminars were held in class groups, e.g. I/4 Group, etc.

11. Each class group had a "group trustee" (csoportfelelős) appointed by the Department of Studies from among the outstanding students. These trustees directed their groups in all scholastic matters. They checked on the attendance of students at lectures, noting the students who cut classes and forwarding their names to the Department of Studies. The trustees held group meetings (csoportgyűlések) and kept the members of their groups informed on scholastic competitions. They were responsible for the scholastic records of their groups. They were the first to take examinations and they were present during the examinations of their groups, reporting the results to the Department of Studies, which posted them on a bulletin board.
12. Each class group also had a DISZ trustee appointed by the Department of Studies who was responsible for the political activities of the group. With the exception of one or two cases, although the trustees were really indirectly appointees of the CP, they were loyal to their groups and protected their interests.

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-4-

13. Students of the first-year class were called "Storks" (golyak), which is the equivalent of freshmen. During the first few months within the Academy they tried earnestly to meet the requirements. Later on they discovered the ways the senior students had found to circumvent regulations. The student body realized that the Academy concentrated on Communist ideology and offered very poor professional training. Therefore there was little interest in study. A few students managed to avoid ideological training and to concentrate on professional subjects, thus becoming well-trained athletes, but these students did not get good marks in their ideological subjects. This prevented them from making physical culture a career, although actually they were professionally qualified. Unfortunately, the majority of students got through the school without thorough training. They appeared to know their subjects, but they were incompetent. When they left the Academy they were neither experts in sports nor good teachers.

Teaching Methods and Examinations

14. The Academy once offered a rich storehouse of knowledge to its students, stimulated the desire for learning, and really educated and matured them. After the fall of 1950 a great many students who had Communist backing but who lacked the proper secondary school education enrolled in the Academy. Their knowledge was so limited that the Academy was forced to change its teaching methods by discontinuing highly theoretical lectures and adopting instead the methods of secondary schools. The lecturers in adapting themselves to the new situation tried desperately to help students understand their subjects. However, the students had no real desire to learn and accused their lecturers of poor teaching. The Communist authorities accepted the students' charges and made the teachers responsible for failures. Fearing the consequences of Communist charges, the teachers scheduled full days of lectures, exercises, seminars, discussions, meetings, etc. The students were bitter, and hidden suspicion and disgust was reflected in their faces.
15. Prior to 1950 students had to take the following examinations: at the end of every semester an oral examination (colloquium), at the end of the second year the teachers' basic examination (tanari alapvizsga), and at the end of the fourth year the teachers' professional examination (tanari szakvizsga).
16. In 1950 the following examinations (explained below) were introduced:
- a. Report on studies (beszamolo)
 - b. Graded report on studies (osztalyozott beszamolo)
 - c. Examination (vizsga)
 - d. State Examination (allamvizsga)
17. Students were obliged to write short recapitulations of their studies four to eight times during each semester. At the end of every semester they had to make an oral report before the lecturers. From the recapitulations and oral reports lecturers were able to establish the scholastic progress of students. If the reports were satisfactory, this was noted in the students' index books.
18. Oral examinations on more important subjects (those which lasted more than one semester) had to be graded from one to five points and marked in the students' index books.
19. After the lectures on each subject were concluded, students were examined before a Commission. These examinations lasted longer and were more serious than the graded reports. Results of the examinations were graded and marked in the index.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-5-

20. Besides the above-mentioned examinations, students were obliged to write an annual report (evfolyamdolgozat) on their studies. These reports contained at least 10 typed pages and were graded and marked in the students' index books.
21. After completing successfully the curriculum of the Academy, students had to take a state examination. They were examined by a committee in detail in the fields of Marxism-Leninism, pedagogy, the theory of physical culture, sports hygiene, and in their chosen practical subject or subjects, such as soccer, tennis, etc. After the examination students received their diplomas (Master of Physical Culture) and a certificate which stated their specialty.

Departments of Theoretical Education

22. Strict attention was always paid to enumerating the various educational Departments (Tanszek) of the Academy of Physical Culture in exact order of their importance. The first group of Departments gave courses in theory for the most part, in which the subject matter of the course was strongly mixed with Marxist-Leninist ideology. These Departments served Communist interests importantly by trying to transform the students' consciousness and produce new Communist intellectuals.

Department of Marxism-Leninism (Marxizmus-Leninizmus Tanszek)

23. As far as I know, this Department had no faculty within the Academy. Two ladies, assistants to a professor at the Academy of Economics, used to come and hold lectures and seminars. They were: (Miss) Irma WALLACH and a (Mrs.) MOLNAR, who started their lectures in the fall of 1951. Prior to that time various Communists lectured on this subject, which always was given the utmost importance at the Academy. Marxism-Leninism was taught through all four years of study, in all semesters. Through innumerable lectures and the method of writing them up, Communist ideology from Marx to the present date was forced upon the students. This subject consumed the major part of the students' free time. Nobody could be promoted or graduate without having at least satisfactory marks from this Department, and final rating of the students depended on their grade in Communist ideology. The favored students of this Department were Party members and the graduates of the One-year Preparatory School, all of whom were of proletarian origin. Students of intellectual origin had to work very hard to get as good marks as their colleagues did with much less effort.

Department of Military Science (Katonai Tanszek)

24. This Department also had no faculty within the Academy. I was never interested in the Department and I did not know the lecturers, but I assume that they came from the staff of the University of Agricultural Sciences, which also had a Department of Military Science. At the Academy, lectures in this subject first started in the fall of 1950 for students in the third-year class. As of 1952, students (male and female) of all four classes were obliged to take courses in the Department. Female students of the Academy were never obliged to take part in practical training and after the second semester of the 1952-1953 school year female students discontinued attendance at the theoretical lectures in Military Science as well. After finishing the school year, all male students were ordered to one month of military service in various military camps. In these camps the students were trained in Communist military life under inhuman conditions. The purpose of the military instruction, theoretical and practical, was to prepare the students for the reserve officer corps.
25. As far as I know, lectures on military theory were given two hours weekly for each class through the school year. The subjects lectured upon were: service regulations (Szolgálati Szabályzat), military tactics (Harcászat), topography (Tereptan), arms and ballistics

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-6-

(Pegyverismeret), etc. Besides the lectures, the Department conducted military seminars and target-shooting practice with standard and small calibre rifles.

26. During the lectures there were often conflicts between the students and the lecturers, who were uneducated Army officers. The lecturers made themselves ridiculous on many occasions and the students took advantage of such opportunities. A great many disciplinary actions were taken against students and some of them were expelled from the Academy because of "disrespectful, destructive, and despicable behavior against officers of the People's Army". On one occasion a lecturer attributed bravery to the warriors of the Red Army and referred to a certain movie where this bravery could be seen. One of the students remarked that their bravery could be seen only in the movies. The lecturer demanded disciplinary action against the student and he was expelled, in spite of the fact that he was one of the best gymnasts.

The Language Department (Nyelv Tanszek)

27. The study of a foreign language was always obligatory. Until 1947 German, English, and French were taught at the Academy and in 1947 the teaching of Russian was introduced also. In the fall of 1949 study of the Russian language was made obligatory and study of the other foreign languages was discontinued. In the fall of 1952 the Directorate of the Academy made the study of Russian obligatory for the teachers also. Because of the resistance of the teachers, after a half year this practice was discontinued.
28. The Chief of the Language Department until his death in the fall of 1952 was Dr. Janos KOSZO, former professor of the English language. I do not know who his successor was, but I do know that Dr. Istvan ZSINKA, Mrs. Jozsefne FRISS, and a certain TARJAN were the lecturers in the Russian language courses.
29. As they did all over Hungary, the CP and the Hungarian-Soviet Society propagated the study of the Russian language at the Academy with the following slogan: "In order to study the original classical masterpieces of Marxism-Leninism, we must learn the immortal language of Lenin and Stalin." This slogan was dangerous behind the Iron Curtain. According to the Communist interpretation, everyone who resisted it resisted the Soviet people, Lenin, Stalin, and Communism in general. In spite of this, students cut Russian classes whenever they could.

Department of the Theory of Physical Culture (Testneveles Elmelet Tanszek).

30. The subjects taught in this Department were didactics and methodology. Until the fall of 1952 the Chief of the Department (Tanszekvezetoe) was Dr. Denes CSEKE (formerly CSURIK), who compiled the material and lectured. When he grew tired of Communist education within the Academy, he resigned and became a teacher of physical culture at a grade school. After he left, Jozsef ANTAL, the Director of the Academy, took over the Department nominally. The real Chief of the Department was Jozsef CZIRJAK and his assistant was (Mrs.) LINDNER.
31. The subjects of this Department were taught in the third and fourth year, with lectures given two hours weekly. This Department directed and evaluated students on the six weeks of practice teaching they were required to do in training schools each of these years. Although both subjects given by this Department were revised to fit the Communist viewpoint, the material was not changed significantly. The relationship between the students and the Department lecturers was good.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-7-

Department of Organization and History of Sports (Sportszervezes es Sporttoertenet Tanszek)

32. The Chief of this Department and lecturer on the Organization of Sports was Robert TOTH, the Deputy Director of the Academy, which was the Department's only claim to importance. In the fall of 1952 (Miss) Klara HALASZ, a graduate of the Academy in 1951, became the teaching assistant (tanarsegged) to TOTH. Miss HALASZ was neither a Communist nor a sympathizer and I heard rumors that she would be replaced in the fall of 1953.
33. Lectures on the Organization of Sports started in the fall of 1950 and were given to the third and fourth-year classes. The lectures included such subjects as the recent organization of Hungarian sports offices, sports organizations, sports movements and activities. In addition, students had a two-week practical training period in these subjects.
34. The Academy always had a Department of History of Sports. Prior to 1949 the Chief of the Department was Dr. Ferenc MEZOE, a former member of the International Olympic Committee who had a great international reputation. In 1949 Dr. Eva FOELDES, a Communist journalist, appeared at the Academy and started to lecture on the History of Sports. Dr. FOELDES was a hard-boiled Communist and they say that she was a very good friend of the wife of Ernoe GEROE, one of the top Hungarian Communists. Since the combination of the Department of Organization of Sports and the History of Sports in 1950 under Robert TOTH, a visible rivalry existed between TOTH and Dr. FOELDES for the Chair. During her first years within the Academy Dr. FOELDES lectured on the history of the CP of the Soviet Union, the history of the USSR, and the history of Soviet sports (instead of the actual history of sports). Dr. FOELDES' goal was to re-educate in history those students who had been educated in non-Communist schools prior to 1948. Later, when Communist-educated students enrolled in the Academy, Dr. FOELDES reduced her lectures on Communist history and turned to sports tales and legends, such as the story of Janos EROES, the story of Miklos TOLDI, etc. Actually her lectures were of no value. The Director of the Academy himself and even a Soviet visitor, a certain SAMANKOV, noticed this fact, too, but nothing was done against Dr. FOELDES. She lectured to the third and fourth year classes. The students hated both Dr. FOELDES and her lectures. In 1951, (Miss) Gabriella TORNAY, a graduate of the Academy that year, became teaching assistant to Dr. FOELDES.

Department of Pedagogy (Pedagogia Tanszek)

35. The Chief of this Department was Dr. Endre ZIBOLEN and his teaching assistants were, since 1951, (Miss) Erzsebet GAL and, since 1952, (Miss) Edith NAGY, both Masters of Physical Culture. They lectured on psychology to the first year class, pedagogy to the second and third-year classes, and history of pedagogy to the fourth-year class. In addition to a number of lectures weekly, seminars in these subjects were held in all classes as well. Until 1949 this Department worked in accordance with the old scientific system. Then the Communists discovered that the lectures were contradictory to Communist views and charged Dr. ZIBOLEN with being "a reactionary". He immediately changed the subjects of his Department to conform to the Communist line. This maneuver saved his position, but he was forced to join the Party. He was a good teacher and knew how to transmit his subjects to his students. Both of his assistants followed his instructions strictly without objection or criticism.

Department of Medicine (Orvostudományi Tanszek)

36. The main goal of this Department was to give lectures to all classes in various fields of medical science which teachers of physical culture and sports should know: namely, anatomy, biology, sports surgery, sports hygiene, sports massage, and healing exercises. The Department also gave medical treatment at the Academy.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-8-

37. Until the summer of 1948 the Chief of the Department was Dr. Antal DUKA (formerly DUECKSTEIN); from summer 1948 until summer 1949, Dr. Gyula OSTOROS; and since then, Dr. Alfonz KERESZTHI. His assistants were: Dr. Mihaly NEMESSURI, Dr. Lajos BORSOS, Dr. Zoltan BOTAR, Dr. Endre SZUECS, and Mr. Mihaly UNGER, attendant. In the summer of 1952 (Miss) Gabriella SZEKELY, a Master of Physical Culture, and a new typist joined the staff of this Department. Except for Dr. NEMESSURI and the new typist, the members of the Department were strongly anti-Communist. Dr. NEMESSURI, who was the Party Secretary of the basic organ of teachers at the Academy, was a restless, destructive Communist, and a poor physician. His advancement was entirely due to his unscrupulous propagation of LYSENKO's biological theory and his servility to the Party. He was unanimously hated.

Practical Education Departments

38. The lecturers in the so-called Practical Departments of the Academy were all graduates of the Academy who desperately tried to counter-balance the Communist influence of the lecturers in the Theoretical Departments. One could hardly find Party members or even sympathizers among the teachers in the Practical Departments. They were representatives of the old, apolitical spirit of the Academy and outstanding personalities in their profession. Although the Directorate was always anxious to find a way to change the personnel of these Departments in favor of Party-true elements, comparable lecturers could not be found who would accept an appointment to the Academy and would be willing to push the Communist cart. The teachers in the Practical Departments handled the students with warmth and real friendship, and they fought bravely against the Directorate and the OTSB for a higher level of professional education. [redacted] the Directorate managed to infiltrate the staff of the Practical Departments by appointing newly graduated students as assistants. At this point the Directorate could not overcome a difficulty which was the result of the educational system within the Academy. Namely, those graduates of the Academy who were really experts in their profession had not had time enough to absorb the subjects of the Theoretical Departments. On the other hand, graduates who concentrated diligently on the subjects of the Theoretical Departments and participated in all Communist activities had had no time to learn the subjects offered by the Practical Departments and therefore did not reach the level of experts in their profession. From a professional point of view, they were of no value. This contradictory situation made almost all of the Academy's graduates enemies of the regime and proved that effective Communist education was still far from achieved within the Academy.

Department of Track and Field Sports (Atletika Tanszek)

39. Subjects in this Department included the theory and practice of all branches of track and field sports. They were taught in all of the four years and included many lectures weekly. The Chief of the Department was Dr. Peter BACSALMASY. As he was an anti-Communist, the Directorate tried many times to dismiss him, but they could find no substitute with his outstanding specialized knowledge. The lecturers in the Department were Jenoe KOLTAI and (Mrs.) Lajosne BALOGH. Assistants to the lecturers were Laszlo ZARANDI and Sandor HARMATI. (Mrs.) Laszloné LEVELEKI, also in the Department, was formerly a well-known athlete, who had had no formal education, and was probably a spy of the OTSB.

The Department of Gymnastics (Torna Tanszek)

40. Subjects taught in this Department covered the theory and practice of all branches of gymnastics. More lectures were held in all four classes in these subjects than in any other Department. The Chief of the Department was Endre KERESZSI who lectured on the theory of gymnastics. Because he was trying to get the backing of the students, he did not

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-9-

demand much work from them. The head lecturer for male students was Dr. Lajos SANTHA. His assistants were Jozsef HARMATH and myself. Our work was always criticized and kept under steady surveillance by the Communists. We succeeded in failing Communist students who were very well trained in Marxist ideology but who did not do well in subjects connected with physical culture. The head lecturer to female students was Dr. Karolyne KRIZSANECZ, an employee of long standing at the Academy. Her assistants were (Mrs.) Laszlone KASZPER, Master of Physical Culture, a member of the Communist Party and a spy, and a Jewess named Agnes KELETI. Miss KELETI, former Olympic champion in gymnastics, was a convinced Communist, although she sometimes openly criticized the Party. (Mrs.) Ottone BANHAZI, a pianist, who played during the exercises (zenekiseroe) also belonged to the staff of this Department.

Department of Athletic Games (Sportjatek Tanszek)

41. Subjects in this Department included the theory and practice of basketball, handball, soccer, soft ball, and tennis. Lectures were held for first and second-year classes and third or fourth-year students who wanted to specialize in one or more of the subjects offered. The Chief of the Department was Janos PALFAI, who left the Academy in the fall of 1952 to work as a journalist for Nepsport (People's Sport paper). After he left, Arpad CSANADI was appointed to the Chair. He lectured on soccer. His assistants were: Jozsef VERBENYI (basketball), Ferenc KOLOZS (handball), Dr. Jozsef KOHONICZ (soft ball), and Imre KELEMEN (tennis).

Department of Competitive and Outdoor Sports (Kuezdosesportok-Vandorsportok Tanszek)

42. Subjects taught in this Department were the theory and practice of fencing, boxing, wrestling, judo, swimming, skiing, kayak paddling, rowing, ice-skating, ice hockey, and hiking. Lectures were held for the first and second-year classes and for third and fourth-year students who wanted to specialize in one or more subjects offered by the Department. Chief of the Department, until 1952, was Andor TAKACS. Involved in an unimportant incident, he refused to give a "self criticism" (oenkritika) in Communist style and he was transferred from the Academy. His successor was Dr. Laszlo DURONELLI, fencing lecturer. His assistants were Arpad KILIAN and Istvan LUKOVICH. The latter was a graduate of the Academy in 1952. Both were lecturers in swimming, skiing, and hiking. Other subjects of the Department were taught by various visiting lecturers.

Department of Studies, Supply Office and Library

43. The Department of Studies was the most important administrative organ and one of the busiest offices of the Academy. Among other things, it took care of the registration of all students, the recording of all personal data, the recording of political data on the students (kaderezes), the recording of results of examinations, evaluation of scholastic competitions (tanulmanyi versenyek), the preparation of the study programs (tanrend) (which changed weekly), the supply of lecture notes to the students, the planning and announcement of examinations, the scheduling of students for examinations, etc. All regulations and instructions concerning the students in their studies were issued by this Department. Prior to 1949 only one person worked in the Department, but there were eight people working there

50X1

44.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

-10-

50X1

The Supply Office (Gazdasagi Hivatal)

45. This office procured all of the materials needed at the Academy and handled disbursement of wages and salaries to the employees. Its Chief was Ferenc BEKASI, who was responsible for all expenditures. He was very cautious in his dealings. Also in the Supply Office was (Mrs.) Belane KOVACH, a simple woman of workers' stock. She was very ignorant and had no idea of how to cope with the demands of her job. In her favor was the fact that she recognized her own limitations. The treasurer of the Supply Office was (Miss) Margit KOVACS, an old employee of the Academy and a very good worker. The Communists knew that she was not in sympathy with the regime and they treated her shamefully, but, because she was experienced, they kept her in her job. There were two typists and one bookkeeper working in the Supply Office also. The Chief of the students' lunchroom (Mensa Academica), (Mrs.) Istvanne KIRALY, also belonged to the staff of the Supply Office. She was a popular personality, a good cook, and liked men.

Library

46. The library of the Academy was known as the Hungarian Sports Library, the only one of its kind in the country. Until World War II this library collected all foreign publications in the field of sports. Up to 1952 the chief librarian was Dr. Ferenc GARAM and his assistant was Sandor LOERINCZ. Both were very capable. Dr. GARAM was never able to camouflage his indignation against the regime, and in 1952 he was dismissed. LOERINCZ remained only because he was extremely popular among the students. After Dr. GARAM's dismissal, a new librarian came to the Academy. He was Laszlo AMBRUS, a lame Hungarian Jew and a Communist of long standing, who had no conception of the job of librarian and no knowledge of sports. After getting his job, he immediately picked out most of the valuable volumes in the library and sent them to the paper mills. LOERINCZ tried to save these books by secretly distributing as many as possible among reliable non-Communist students. However, the once famous Hungarian Sports Library was changed into a storeroom of Communist books and reviews.

Special Courses

47. After the Communists took over power in Hungary in 1948, a great many Comrades without proper education got high and important positions. This created great confusion and, in order to remedy the situation, the Communists organized special courses of instruction for these people after the Soviet pattern.
48. In the fall of 1948 the Government established a One-year Preparatory Course (Szakerettsegi Tanfolyam) at the Academy of Physical Culture. People who had not matriculated at any gymnasium could enroll in this course and after finishing it successfully they could enroll in the Academy as regular students.
49. In the fall of 1951 a Three-year Correspondence School (Levelezoe Foeiskola) was established within the Academy. The goal of this special school was to give professional education to all members of the National Committee of Physical Culture and Sports (Orszagos Testnevelési es Sport Bizottsag -- OTSB) and to all of the cadres of sports offices. Many of these sport leaders protested against having to enroll in this course, but their protests were in vain. After finishing this correspondence course, the "students" received a physical culture diploma. Actually this diploma was of almost no value. During the three years students received only theoretical education, a condensed version of the material covered in the Academy and sports organizations. Because of their employment within the Hungarian sports offices they did not have time for physical exercise and training and had no idea how to make use of their theoretical knowledge in actual

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-11-

practice. It is doubtful if they learned even the theory of physical culture and sports. Because of their positions in important sports offices, they received good marks in examinations at the Academy in spite of their superficial knowledge.

50. In the school year of 1952-1953 a Five-year Correspondence School (Oeteves Levelezoe Foeiskola) was started. With the operation of this school the government intended to give people tied to their jobs a chance to get degrees or diplomas in physical culture. No students under 25 years of age were accepted and the entrance examinations (felveteli vizsgak) were established at a very low level. As far as I know, at first nobody wanted to enroll in this correspondence school. In an attempt to avoid the appearance of failure, the government ordered the armed forces, the police, and other state offices to instruct some of their employees to enroll. The great majority of these people could not pass the entrance examination and a committee of the instructors of the Academy at first refused to accept them. However, the Directorate of the Academy later persuaded the committee to accept students in sufficient numbers regardless of the results of their entrance examinations. The theoretical and practical requirements for the students of this school were just the same as for the regular students of the Academy but, judging from the results of the first year of the school, I believe the professional knowledge of the students at graduation would not be sufficient to meet the requirements of the entrance examinations for regular students.
51. Beginning with the 1951-1952 school year, a one-year Sport Leaders' School (Sportvezetokepzoe Iskola) operated within the Academy but independently of its courses. The purpose of this School was to educate sport managers, sport administrators, organizers, and leaders for sport clubs, associations, etc. There were no entrance examinations. The students attended lectures in theory and practice in any field of sports, in the basic knowledge of pedagogy and medical science, and the organization of sports.
52. With the cooperation of the staff of the Academy in the school year of 1953-1954, the government intended to organize and operate a two-year Trainers' School (Edzokepzoe Foeiskola). This school would give professional education in theory and practice for trainers of sport clubs and athletic associations.

Personalities of the Directorate of the Academy of Physical Culture

53. After World War II the government appointed a Ministerial Commissioner to the Academy in the person of Karoly SZABO, former instructor of physical culture at the Sarospatak Gymnasium. As far as I can remember, SZABO held his position until the end of 1947, when Dr. Ferenc HEPP was appointed Director of the Academy.
54. Dr. HEPP was a former student at the Academy who had continued his studies in the United States before World War II, and received his degree there. From 1945 until his appointment he was the instructor of basketball and director of scientific research (tudomanyos kutatas) within the Academy. (I have no information on what this research was.) He was a member of the National Peasant Party (Nemzeti Parasztpart) and it was said that he got his promotion because of backing by this Party. Later, having already become the Director of the Academy, he was forced to join the Communist Party. However, the Communists did not trust him and he was always under strict control. For this reason he was never able to display his reputed ability. During the first year of his Directorship he developed the level of education at the Academy to a high standard, but later Communist pressure on him increased and he became only a puppet. In the summer of 1951 he was

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-12-

removed from his position. Until the end of [] he gave lectures and after that he worked on the Faculty of Physical Culture within the University of Agricultural Sciences. 50X1

55. After Dr. HEPP's dismissal, Jozsef ANTAL, former instructor of physical culture at the College of Pedagogy of Szeged, was promoted to be his successor. ANTAL was a busy-body, a dissembler, and an ardent Communist, with severe gastric complaints. As a so-called "sole trustee" (egyszemelyi feleloes) at the Academy representing the OTSB, he was responsible for executing the orders and demands of the OTSB within the Academy. In this respect he kept under control: the students, through the Department of Studies (Tanulmanyi Osztaly); the teachers and instructors, through the Council of the Academy; the correspondence students, through the Department of Correspondence Education (Levelezoe Oktatasi Osztaly); the Supply Office (Gazdasagi Hivatal); and the Library. As Director of the Academy he failed. He never paid any attention to the real interests and purposes of the Academy but only to administration. He tried to convince his superiors that their orders and instructions were carried out without delay and that the personnel of the Academy was true to the Communist line. Being a dissembler, he was interested primarily in his own success and in saving his skin in a possible Communist purge. He was one of the most disliked persons at the Academy and was constantly watched by the Deputy Director and the Party Secretary. As a member of the praesidium of the Gymnastics Department of the OTSB, he was one of the leaders of the Hungarian National Gymnastics Team visiting Rotterdam, The Netherlands, in July 1953.
56. The position of Deputy Director was created in 1950 and was held by Robert TOTH. TOTH, who was formerly a professional soccer player and a tailor's assistant, was a good and reliable Communist Party member, but he had a very quarrelsome nature. He was the "wise guy" type. Before 1950 he was the chief of one of the offices of the OTSB, or rather of the OSH (Orszagos Sport Hivatal -- National Sport Office), which was the predecessor of the OTSB. To get rid of him the OTSB instituted the position of a Deputy Director within the Academy and asked TOTH to take this "very important" job. TOTH was a graduate of the Party College (Partfoeiskola). As the Deputy Director TOTH's main responsibility was the political control over the Academy. He was eager to be present at every meeting, discussion, lecture, etc. and delivered "enlightening" speeches on all problems and questions from the standpoint of "science and politics." As the president of the "Haladas" ("Progress") Sport Club of the Academy he concentrated on Communist indoctrination instead of sports. (The "Haladas" Sport Clubs were the student sport organizations within all Hungarian universities and colleges.) In 1951 TOTH was forced to take the three-year correspondence course himself and also to help in the compilation of material for that school. His responsibilities were too heavy for his shoulders and he almost had a physical breakdown. The One-year Preparatory Course and the One-year Sport Leaders' School were under his direction, but I hardly believe that they benefitted by his leadership. For the regular students TOTH lectured on the Organization of Sports (Sportszervezes).
58. Until 1952 the Academy did not have an independent Party Secretary, i.e. a Party Secretary who belonged to the personnel of the Academy and had no other duties except to represent the Communist Party and its interests. Previously, each of the basic organs (alapszervek) of the teachers', students', and workers' Party organizations had Party Secretaries, but they were very lax and inefficient. In 1952 Istvan BOJTI, a Hungarian Jew, appeared at the Academy as Party Secretary. He occupied the Party office and intimidated everybody with his political power. He observed and controlled all organs of the Academy from the CP viewpoint, and he organized a wide net of agents who infiltrated every office, department, and organization of the Academy.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

50X1

-13-

Through his coordination and direction of the political activities of the teachers', students', and workers' organizations, BOJTI forced everybody to participate in political campaigns and demonstrations. He also controlled and directed ideological education at the Academy.

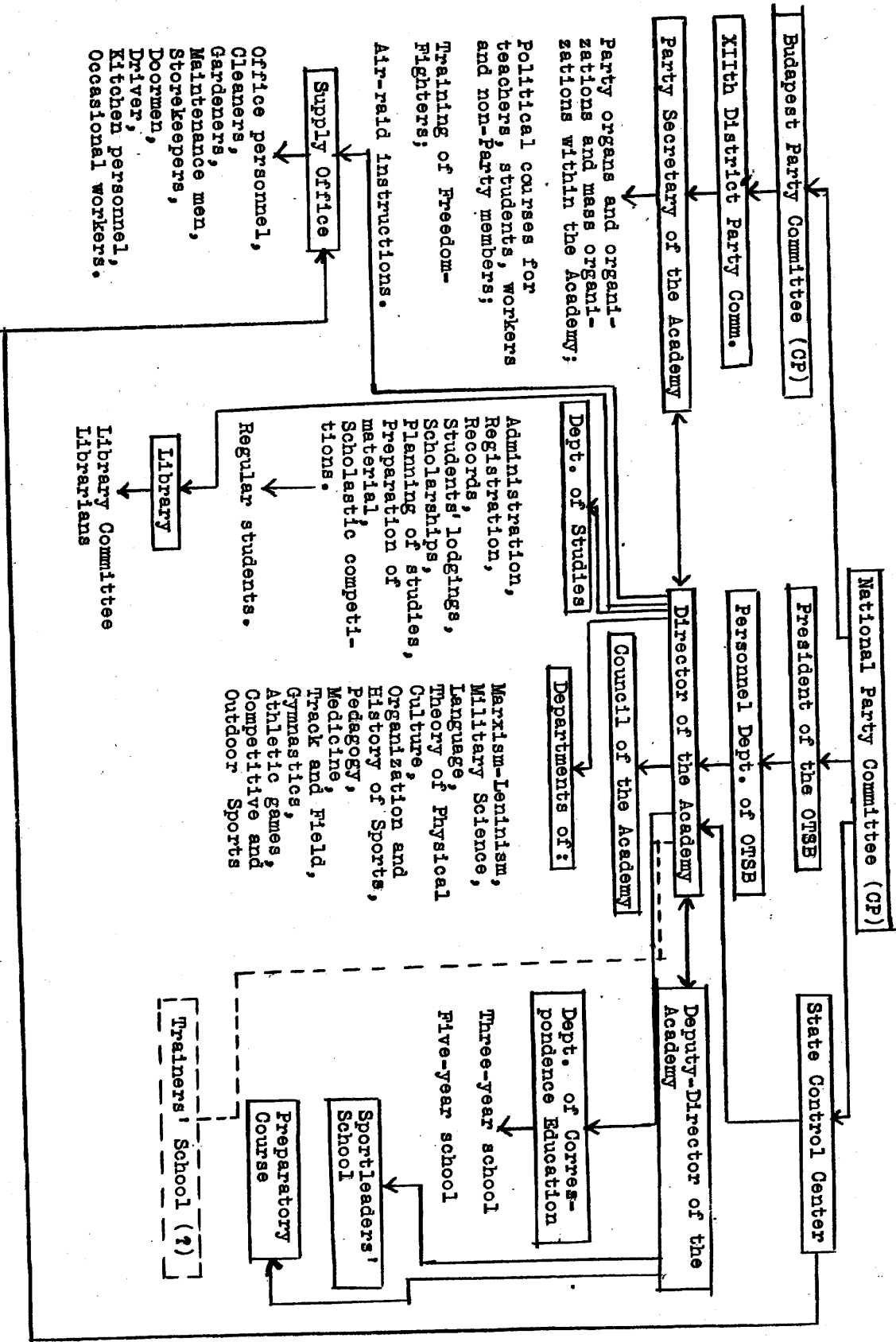
Annex A. Organizational Chart of the Hungarian Academy of Physical Culture (showing relationship to CP).

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL
-14-

50X1

Annex A. Organizational Chart of the Hungarian Academy of Physical Culture (showing relationship to CP)



CONFIDENTIAL